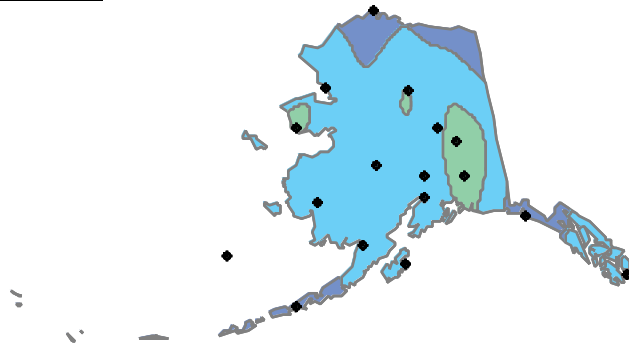
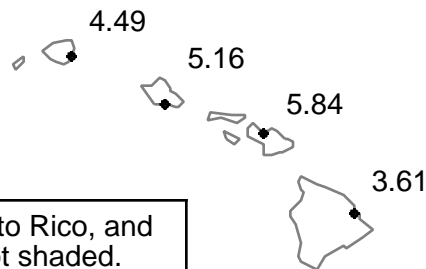


Alaska



Hawaii

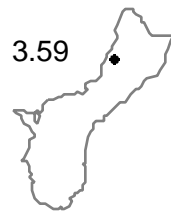


Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Guam are not shaded.

San Juan, PR

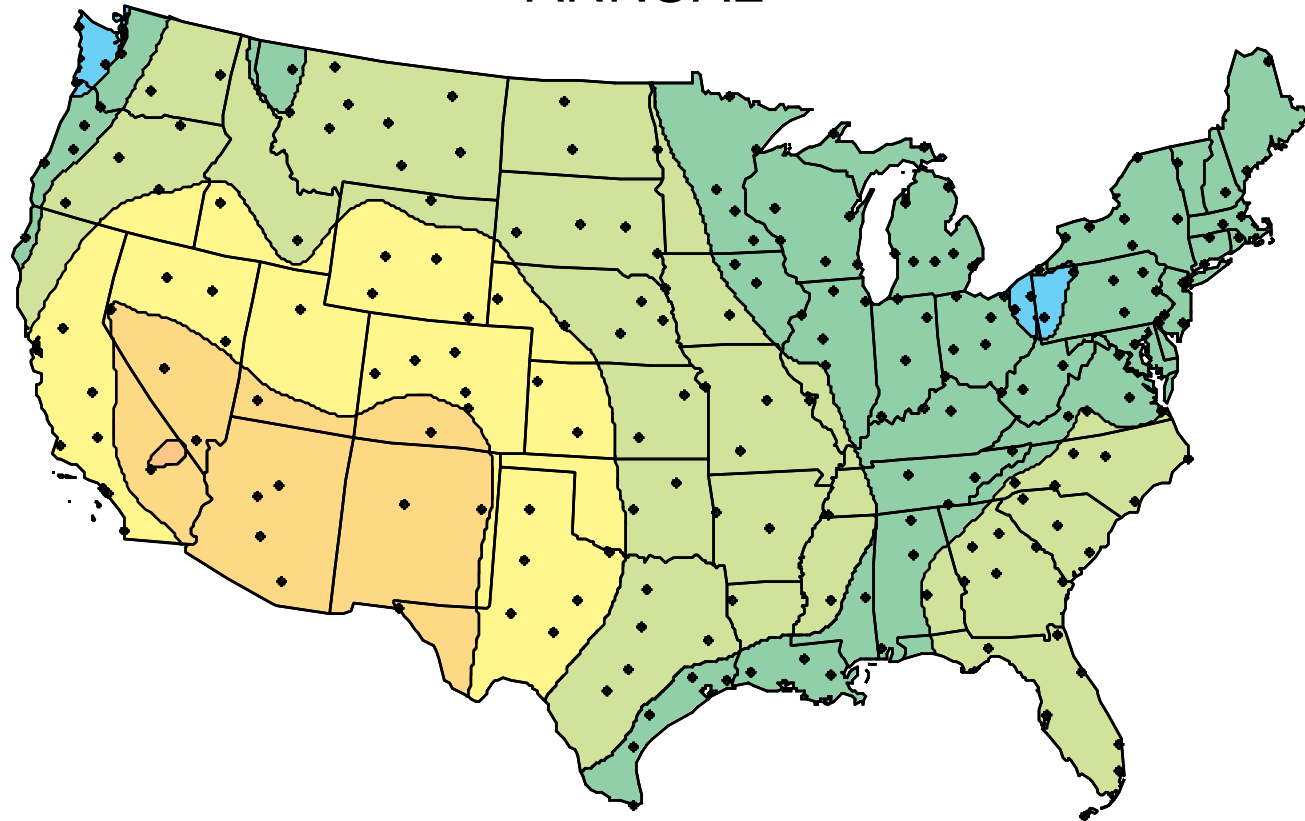


Guam, PI



Average Daily Solar Radiation Per Month

ANNUAL



Two-Axis Tracking Concentrator

Collector Orientation

Two-axis tracking concentrator system such as a parabolic dish uses direct beam radiation. Direct beam radiation comes in a direct line from the sun and is measured with instruments having a field of view of 5.7 degrees. These instruments see only the sun's disk and a small portion of the sky surrounding the sun. Tracking the sun in both azimuth and elevation, the dish or field of heliostats (mirrors) reflects solar energy onto a small spot.

This map shows the general trends in the amount of solar radiation received in the United States and its territories. It is a spatial interpolation of solar radiation values derived from the 1961-1990 National Solar Radiation Data Base (NSRDB). The dots on the map represent the 239 sites of the NSRDB.

Maps of average values are produced by averaging all 30 years of data for each site. Maps of maximum and minimum values are composites of specific months and years for which each site achieved its maximum or minimum amounts of solar radiation.

Though useful for identifying general trends, this map should be used with caution for site-specific resource evaluations because variations in solar radiation not reflected in the maps can exist, introducing uncertainty into resource estimates.

Maps are not drawn to scale.



National Renewable Energy Laboratory
Resource Assessment Program

kWh/m²/day

